



PROVIDER BULLETIN



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Network Providers

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AN INTRODUCTION ON THE KATIE A. LAWSUIT

In 2002, a class action lawsuit (Katie A. vs. Bontá) was filed against the State of California and Los Angeles County, alleging the children in contact with the Los Angeles County's foster care system were not receiving the mental health services to which they were entitled. In July 2003, the County entered into a settlement agreement resolving the County portion of the lawsuit. Under the terms of the agreement, the County was obligated to make a number of systemic improvements to better serve children with mental health needs. Significant system enhancements have been initiated by the County to comply with the intent of the settlement agreement to ensure mental health needs of the children are met in a timely matter. These have resulted in a rich array of child and family, strength-based programs and services based upon the DMH and DCFS shared Core Practice Model. The DMH Child Welfare Division will be providing more detailed information and training sessions to the Fee-for-Service Network Provider in the near future.

CONTRACT TERMINATION DUE TO NON-CREDENTIALING

It is the network provider's responsibility to maintain current credentials. A network provider's failure to maintain current credentials will result in the termination of their reimbursement privileges for specialty mental health services rendered to Medi-Cal beneficiaries. Dates of service upon which a network provider has experienced a break in active credentialing status will not be subject to retroactive reimbursement. Even if a contract is in place at the time credentials lapse, the contract is considered in default, and claims will not be reimbursed for the period of time the credentials were not secured. Not maintaining your credentialing may ultimately result in the termination of your contract.

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ELIMINATION OF LATE CODE 3

Effective immediately, delay reason/late code 3 is obsolete and is not to be used during the claim submission process. Any claims submitted with late code 3 will be denied.

INTRODUCING MANDATORY TRAINING ON DOCUMENTATION

In an effort to keep all Network providers informed, the Department will be implementing several trainings including a mandatory training on documentation.

As soon as dates and locations are available, the information will be disseminated via email correspondence.

NOTIFICATION OF DISSEMINATION OF COUNTY DOCUMENTS FROM THE MANAGED CARE DIVISION

The Department is implementing a series of new systems that require network providers' email addresses in order to conduct business.

E-mail is now the main method used to contact providers of any modifications the department plans to implement and/or to keep providers apprised of anything that may affect their ability to provide specialty mental health services.

Network providers will be held accountable for complying with all Los Angeles County business requirements and correspondence submitted via email whether or not a change of email address is submitted timely.

Please use the Contractor Address Form when reporting a change of address or email address. Return the form to:

Contracts Development and Administration Division
ATTN: Managed Care Section
550 S. Vermont, 5th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90020

This form can also be faxed to (213) 381-7092 or (213) 487-9658 or email to FFS2@dmh.lacounty.gov.

The form can be found as Attachment C on Provider Bulletin issue 5 at the following link:
<http://lacdmh.lacounty.gov/hipaa/documents/4theditionissue5revised9-22-11.pdf>.